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DD/R # 289-62/A

June 15, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Meeting with Under Secretary McGhee Concerning
US-USSR Cooperation in Outer Space Activities

The following persons met with Under Secretary McGhee at the Department of State on Friday afternoon, June 15, to review the recent discussions in Geneva and to consider the future steps to be taken in this matter: *

Department of State:

Mr. McGhee	- M	Mr. Cleveland	- IO
Mr. Bohlen	- S/B	Mr. Sisco	- IO/UNP
Mr. Kretzmann	- S/SA	Mr. Kitchen	- G/PM
Mr. Packard	- S/SA	Mr. Kearney	- L
		Mr. Guthrie	- EUR/SOV

National Aeronautics and Space Council:

Dr. Welsh, Executive Secretary

White House:

Mr. Kaysen	Mr. Skolnikoff
Mr. Johnson	Dr. Golovin

National Aeronautics and Space Administration:

Dr. Dryden

Department of Defense:

Dr. Charyk, Under Secretary of the Air Force
Mr. McNaughton, Deputy Assistant Secretary, ISA
Col. John, ISA
Col. Ackerley, Joint Staff

CIA:

Dr. Scoville

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Weather Bureau:

Dr. Reichelderfer

Dr. Wexler

* The second series of bilateral talks with Soviet representatives were held between Dr. Dryden and Professor Blagonravov in Geneva on May 29 - June 7, 1962. At the conclusion of these talks, Dr. Dryden and Professor Blagonravov signed a joint memorandum dated June 8, 1962 which conveyed ad referendum to the US and Soviet Governments proposals for technical arrangements for three specific cooperative projects. On the same day they issued a joint press communique which summarized the results of their discussions.

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-2-

At the outset Dr. Dryden gave a summary and appraisal of his talks in Geneva, noting particularly that the Soviets appeared quite anxious to achieve an agreement on some specific projects but that they clearly wished to avoid a direct confrontation of US and Soviet equipment and did not press for arrangements which would involve the acquisition of US technology. The arrangements for the exchange of weather data from satellites call for a direct two-way exchange of selected information of "equivalent interest". The Soviets appeared not to be ready as yet to exchange weather photographs, but will probably be in a position to do so in the near future. With respect to cooperation in communication via satellites, the Soviet interest appeared clearly to extend beyond cooperation in the experimental phase, but no agreements were reached for cooperation in the immediate future other than in the experimental relay of communications via the ECHO satellite. Dr. Dryden warned that we must be careful not to become involved with the Soviets in a purely bilateral consideration of the development of operational satellites for international communication.

Dr. Reichelderfer noted that with respect to the communications link which is proposed between Washington and Moscow for the exchange of weather data, the Western Europeans do not wish to become dependent on the Soviets for the receipt of this information. This communications link should, therefore, be established so as to serve also the capitals of the interested Western European countries.

It was the consensus of the meeting that the proposals contained in the joint Dryden-Blagonravov memorandum represent a sound and acceptable program so long as they are adhered to by the Soviet Government. It was noted that there remain three other specific projects which were suggested in the exchange of correspondence between President Kennedy and Chairman Khrushchev in March 1962 on which no specific conclusions or proposals have been reached so far, i.e., (1) the acquisition of data obtained through tracking facilities located in each other's countries but operated by the host government, (2) joint observation of solar and interplanetary probes, and (3) space medicine. Dr. Dryden observed that it was already clear that the Soviets are not interested in cooperating in tracking and are probably not really interested in joint observation of space probes.

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-3-

It was agreed, however, that when the specific proposals contained in the joint Dryden-Blagonravov memorandum have been agreed formally between the US and Soviet Governments, Dr. Dryden should arrange directly with Professor Blagonravov for further technical discussions concerning broader cooperation in communication via satellites and the possibility of cooperation in such of these remaining topics as may seem worthwhile to pursue further. It is likely that these further discussions will take place in Moscow in the fall.

There followed a discussion as to the course of action to be taken in following up on the specific proposals in the joint Dryden-Blagonravov memorandum, and it was agreed generally that:

1. After a reasonable interval and if no serious objections have been raised by any of the interested agencies, Dr. Dryden will inform Professor Blagonravov that we have no changes to suggest in their joint memorandum. (The memorandum provided for a two-month waiting period during which either party could propose changes.)

2. Upon notification from Professor Blagonravov that the Soviets do not desire changes which would be unacceptable to us (or at the conclusion of the two-month waiting period), we will, assuming the Soviets still wish to proceed, exchange notes with the Soviet Government to confirm government-level agreement to these proposals.

3. After government-level agreement has been obtained, the President might write to Chairman Khrushchev noting both the agreement to proceed with the specific arrangements at hand and the prospects of further technical discussions on additional topics. The Department of State should prepare a draft letter for the President's consideration.

4. Meanwhile, Dr. Welsh should report these developments to the Vice President, and Under Secretary McGhee and Dr. Dryden should together report them to members of Congress who have a specific interest and responsibility in this field, e.g., Senator Kerr, as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Aeronautics and Space Sciences, Congressman Miller, as Chairman of the House Committee on Science and Astronautics, Senators Smith and Cannon and Representative Fulton as Advisers to the US Delegation to the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, and appropriate members of the House Committee

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-4-

on Foreign Affairs and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

5. After government-level agreement has been obtained from the Soviets, we should report these developments to the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space through the Secretary General of the United Nations. Assistant Secretary Cleveland will consider the most appropriate means of doing this and will prepare such a report.

6. Dr. Dryden should, in cooperation with the interested agencies, proceed now to arrange nominations for US membership in the joint US-Soviet working groups which are to develop the detailed implementation of the meteorological and geomagnetic proposals. These working groups will not, however, be activated until formal agreement has been reached with the Soviet Government.

7. The joint Dryden-Blagonravov memorandum should be treated as CONFIDENTIAL, pending government-level agreement by the Soviets or earlier Soviet public release.

8. The Department should prepare a memorandum to be sent by the Secretary to the President right away which would convey the results of the talks in Geneva and the future course of action agreed in this meeting.

S/SA:RFPackard:reg

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